From: Chris Kline
To: Contact OGE
Subject: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
Date: Thursday, June 16, 2022 9:40:23 PM

As a former high school ethics instructor and Senate Governmental Affairs Committee Professional Staff member (1989-1997), I oppose OGE's proposed legal expense fund regulation as drafted.

OGE should:
- remove the exception that makes compliance with the regulation optional
- replace the proposed recusal requirement with a broader 5-year recusal requirement that prevents donors of cash gifts from influencing decisions, policies, or regulations affecting them or the industries in which they have substantial interests;
- remove the offensive example involving an accused sexual harasser; and
- place nonprofit charities (501(c)(3) organizations) on an equal footing with large law firms by allowing them to hire legal counsel for whistleblowers.

I would appreciate acknowledgement that OGE has received and addressed these comments.

Regards,
Chris Kline
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Chris
574-261-2749